

## Amusements, etc., This Evening.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.—"Arabia-Paena" and "Ker-  
ry." Mr. J. J. Van Hook.  
GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—"Monte Cristo." Charles  
Foster.  
NEW FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.—"Divorce."  
NIBLO'S GARDEN.—"The Magic Charm."  
OLYMPIA THEATRE.—"Hammy Dimpity." George  
L. Fox.  
UNION SQUARE THEATRE.—"Frou-Frou." Miss  
Anna Rhea.  
WALLACE'S THEATRE.—"David Garrick." E. A.  
Bostons and Miss Katherine Rogers.

ASSOCIATION HALL.—Lecture. Dr. J. Jay Villers.  
TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE.—Varieties.

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Advertisements for this week's issue of THE  
WEEKLY TRIBUNE must be placed in the hands of the  
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## New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1873.

The election of M. Barodet from Paris to the French  
Assembly is confirmed. More details are given of  
the Vienna Commission's scandal.

Gov. Dix will sign the New-York Charter to-day or  
tomorrow. The Legislature of the District of Co-  
lumbia was organized and Gov. Cooke's message pre-  
sented. Ten lives were lost by fires in the West.

The depositors of the Atlantic National Bank held an  
enlargement meeting. The Crispins have offered their  
strike temporarily. The Assembly Committee on  
Grain and Commerce resumed the Insurance investigation.

Gold—117, 117 1/2. Thermometer—51°, 62°, 52°.

It would appear that we are yet quite far  
from finding out the number of lives lost by  
the Richmond Switch disaster. A Providence  
newspaper calls attention to the fact that there  
are many inquiries for missing people. These  
might have been on the wrecked train; their  
bodies may have been destroyed in the fire or  
buried in the stream. How many persons will  
never be inquired after none can tell.

To the ordinary citizen there is nothing  
sadder than popular amusements. But occa-  
sionally one brighter than the rest is made to  
do penance in witnessing them, and takes a  
spirituelle revenge by making them amusing  
in the telling. These who wish to see the  
process by which something is made out of  
nothing, will find it exemplified on the second  
page of this issue.

News from the Modoc country is not encour-  
aging. It is thought that the beleaguered  
savages will steal out in small parties and  
disperse through the country. This will make  
a long campaign for the cavalry, if the fugi-  
tives are to be "exterminated." The narrative  
of the massacre, related by Commissioner  
Meacham, though not containing anything  
especially new, is a striking story. Now that  
we know the bloody ending of the conference,  
the temerity of the Commissioners in ventur-  
ing into the snare laid for them seems amaz-  
ing.

The dispatches last night announcing the  
news of the election in Paris gave M. de  
Kléman's votes to Baron Stöckel, who was  
thus made second on the list. This error is  
corrected this morning. The majority of M.  
Barodet is still very decisive, and the Con-  
servative Republicans are for the moment  
naturally depressed by it. There would not  
seem to be any necessity for a reconstruction  
of the Cabinet on account of this incident,  
and if M. Thiers accepts it with his usual  
skill and sagacity there will be nothing to  
regret in it.

Reports from Vienna deepen the sense of  
humiliation which every American citizen  
feels when he thinks of the figure we make  
at the Exposition. The disgraceful business  
of farming out special privileges by members  
of the Commission has got into the European  
newspapers, where it furnishes material for  
lively comment. We are reported to be a thin-  
skinned and sensitive people; but it is clear  
that such a conspicuous display of domestic  
weakness would be annoying to any nation.  
This particular unhappiness is aggravated by  
the fact that the overturning of the American  
Commission seriously embarrasses for the  
present our representation in the Exhibition.

The Tribune Lecture sheet issued this morn-  
ing contains the concluding lectures of the  
Rev. Henry Ward Beecher at Yale  
College. These expound his lucid  
beliefs respecting Conversion, Revivals,  
and a Religious Experience, giving  
expression less to his definite doctrinal notions  
than to his broad humanity. A complete and  
exceedingly interesting history of the birth  
and early struggles of the Moravian Church  
is given by one of its eminent divines, Bishop  
de Schweinitz. We publish for the first time  
an abstract of a discourse by the late Rev. Thos.  
Starr King of California. A letter by Mr.  
Marvin H. Bovee concerning Capital Punish-  
ment, and a History of Sectarian Appropriations  
in this State, discuss themes of im-  
mediate and lively interest. This Extra is uni-  
form with its predecessors, and is sold for  
three cents; five cents by mail.

Governor Cooke, in his message to the Leg-  
islature of the District of Columbia, makes a  
fair financial showing. The affairs of the  
District, according to the Governor, are pru-  
dently managed, and attract the respect and

confidence of all. The maze of figures spread  
over the scandal which has been  
caused by the brilliant career of the  
Board of Public Works is somewhat  
bewildering. Possibly the showing that  
the message makes may be altogether candid  
and as good as it seems. We would like to  
believe so. But there has been so much ap-  
parent juggling in the accounts of the Board of  
Public Works, we prefer to see a fair and  
laborious comparison of figures made before  
accepting these footings as final. Now that  
the Legislature has met, we expect to see a  
searching inquiry into the alleged illegal prac-  
tices of the Ring. This is more reasonably  
sure because the ruling faction has already  
been defeated in the lower branch of the  
Legislature.

The actual defalcation in the Atlantic Bank  
appears, after close examination, to be about  
\$600,000, of which the daring and ingenious  
but reckless Mr. Taintor has stolen fully two-  
thirds. The condition of the bank was so  
desperate a year ago that the Examiner, Mr.  
Meigs, warned the Controller of the Currency  
that it ought not to be permitted to make  
further dividends until its impaired capital  
was made good. This apparently was not  
done; the business was continued in the same  
loose manner, and the result has been an-  
nounced. Nothing criminal on the part of any  
of the officers but the Cashier has, however,  
been adduced, and the absurd indignation of  
the depositors at their meeting yesterday  
against the stockholders and directors, who  
are the heaviest losers by the dishonesty of  
Taintor, was fitly rebuked by one of the  
speakers. The principal directors and the  
largest stockholders of the bank are men of  
ample fortunes and irreproachable character  
who will not for a moment be suspected of  
complicity with the swindling Cashier. The  
President seems to have been irresolute, and  
the directors were too confiding. In declaring  
that he alone is guilty of the embezzlement  
Taintor probably tells the truth. The suspi-  
cion strongly prevails that he still has pos-  
session of most of the embezzled funds with  
the design of compromising by returning a  
portion and escaping prosecution.

## THE TREASURY AND THE MERCHANTS.

The Treasury Department has not mended  
its case by the publication of the correspond-  
ence in the matter of Phelps, Dodge & Co.  
These documents throw no light upon the  
violations of the Revenue laws for which the  
firm has been mulcted. They make no sensa-  
tional disclosures. They discredit none of the  
statements which the merchants have pub-  
lished in their own defense. We have first  
the report of Special Agent Jayne, reciting  
the discovery of discrepancies in the invoices,  
and commenting with much impertinent vir-  
tue upon the wickedness of frauds against the  
revenue. Then comes the formal correspond-  
ence between Mr. George Bliss, jr., and Solicitor  
Randolph on the one hand, and the attor-  
neys of Messrs. Phelps, Dodge & Co. on the  
other, respecting the offer to compromise.  
That is all. There is no confession of  
guilt. There is nothing, except Mr.  
Jayne's report, to show any intention to de-  
fraud—and when Mr. Hand-off Jayne goes  
after an importer, his zeal, as we all know, is  
not invariably tempered with discretion. Of  
course the Treasury Department does not  
publish Messrs. Phelps, Dodge & Co.'s ex-  
planation of the discrepancies; neither does it  
publish the letter of ex-District-Attorney  
Davis, who declares that an examination of  
the whole case, in the light of their explana-  
tions, convinced him that "the idea of de-  
frauding the Government of its lawful duties  
had never entered their minds." The papers  
now given to the public show, however, that  
Mr. George Bliss, jr., who succeeded Judge  
Davis as District-Attorney, recommended the  
Treasury to compromise the claim, on the  
ground that the Government would not get  
what it demanded if the case went into  
court. "I am influenced to this course," he  
says, "by the fact that the nominal amount  
claimed is so enormous in comparison with  
the amount of undervaluation and fraud that  
I believe it would be exceedingly difficult  
to obtain a verdict for the amount claimed." Mr.  
Bliss in fact advised the Secretary to take  
\$271,000 because he did not believe he could  
get any more. Judge Davis recommended it  
because he was satisfied of the innocent intent,  
and did not believe a forfeiture of the whole  
amount was deserved. But if there was no  
guilty intent the Government had no moral  
right to exact a penny above the actual defi-  
ciency of duties. The statutes empower the  
Secretary of the Treasury "to mitigate or re-  
mit such fine, forfeiture, or penalty, or remove  
such disability, or any part thereof, if in his  
opinion the same shall have been incurred  
"without willful negligence, or any intention of  
fraud in the person or persons incurring the  
same." The officer upon whose representations  
the Secretary of the Treasury is expected  
chiefly to rely is the District-Attorney. The  
District-Attorney, however, was interested in  
forcing a compromise, because he was entitled  
to two per cent of the gross amount recovered.  
The chief officers of the Custom-house—the  
Collector, Surveyor, and Naval Officer—heavily  
cooperated with him, because they were jointly  
to receive one-quarter of the remainder.

In this blackmailing operation the Govern-  
ment officials stand in a hardly more agree-  
able light than the spy who set the proceedings  
on foot. The "compromise" looks like nothing  
but a scheme to extort money, and the firm  
made a terrible blunder in submitting to it.  
Their course, however, is not incomprehensi-  
ble. Probably they had good reason to dread  
any further quarrel with the Custom-house.  
Threatened with a vexatious prosecution,  
seizure of their books, interruption of their  
business, and injury to their credit, they went  
before the Secretary of the Treasury in the  
attitude of criminals suing for mercy, paid the  
quarter of a million, and were told to go home  
thankful that they had not been robbed of  
three quarters of a million more.

Long before the political campaign of 1872  
we denounced the frauds and injustice that  
flourished in our Custom-house under the sys-  
tem which makes the collection of the reve-  
nue a scheme for rewarding political fol-  
lowers and pushing partisan advantages. The  
Patterson investigation in 1871 brought to  
light an extent of dishonesty among the offi-  
cials and oppression of the merchants far  
beyond the current suspicions. A second in-  
vestigation, in 1872, revealed greater abuses  
than ever, especially in the extortionate  
charges levied upon commerce, the license  
granted to spies and informers, and injustice  
toward reputable merchants; but the Admin-  
istration took no notice of the disclosures be-  
cause it had no desire for reform. One of the  
most important witnesses before the Patterson  
Committee was Mr. William E. Dodge, who  
testified emphatically that, owing to the  
extortions of General Order  
storekeepers and the various persons

connected with the Custom-house, New-York  
had become the most expensive port in the  
whole world. His evidence was considered  
extremely damaging, and has often been re-  
ferred to in subsequent discussions. The  
names of Phelps, Dodge & Co. also headed  
an unavailing petition for the redress of cer-  
tain grievances signed by one hundred New-  
York merchants and presented to Collector  
Murphy. Nevertheless Mr. Dodge was unwise  
enough during the late campaign to give his  
influence for the continuance of the evils of  
which he had complained. He believed, we  
suppose, that the Washington authorities were  
really anxious that the management of the  
Custom-house should be just. We should like  
to know what Mr. Dodge thinks about it  
now.

For Mr. Dodge's fidelity during the canvass  
has apparently not wiped out the remembrance  
of his testimony during the investigation. We  
should be sorry to say that he has been per-  
secuted for telling the truth; but we do be-  
lieve that if he had not offended the Custom-  
house in 1871 he would have been less likely  
to suffer from the outrage which has just  
been inflicted on his firm. It is not often  
that the great New-York organization of  
corruption and oppression has so tempting  
an opportunity at once to seize a rich spoil  
and to revenge itself upon a witness who  
has exposed its abuses. While the Custom-  
house is controlled by professional party hacks,  
we may expect it to be filled with extortioners.  
While it is managed for partisan purposes, we  
may expect it to be used as an instrument for  
enriching party friends, punishing party foes,  
and availing those who know too much into  
silence. There is no firm in New-York which  
does not run the same danger which Phelps,  
Dodge & Co. incurred. Any importer who  
complains of extravagant imposts upon com-  
merce, or exposes corruption and mismanage-  
ment, may have his papers seized by a Custom-  
house agent and his business overhauled for  
any number of years. Under our complex  
system of valuations it will go hard if some  
apparent irregularity cannot be discovered,  
and in any case the inconveniences and dis-  
grace of the seizure must entail serious loss.

We leave this case to the consideration of  
the mercantile community—only reminding  
them that if they want to save themselves  
from the fate of Mr. William E. Dodge they  
must reform the Custom-house from roof to  
cellar; and if they want to reform the Custom-  
house they must begin at Washington.

## SPANISH AFFAIRS.

It is only prudent to receive with reserve  
the Spanish news which comes to us from  
London. There is in England a strong feeling  
of distrust and opposition to the Republic,  
partly because it is new and partly because of  
an indefinite impression that it is not quite  
respectable. The same feeling of cold hostility  
is evident at every court on the Continent.  
Even in the Republican Government of France  
there is no friendliness toward the young Re-  
public beyond the Pyrenees. M. Thiers evi-  
dently feels that an intimate relation at this  
moment would be compromising. When some-  
one in conversation with him recently referred  
to the Spanish Republic as "our younger sis-  
ter," the cautious and witty old statesman  
rejoined, "Yes—a younger sister who may  
possibly commit some indiscretion which  
will prevent the elder from marrying well." But  
nowhere is this injurious distrust  
so openly manifested as in England, where it  
takes on the form of overt sympathy with  
Carlism. In a country whose chief boast is its  
civil freedom, where suspicion of the influence  
of the Catholic Church is a national character-  
istic, we see the curious spectacle presented of  
active and ostentatious adherence to a cause  
which means nothing but despotism in the  
State and nothing but obscurantism and blind  
bigotry in the Church. A Carlism Committee  
is fully organized and in operation in the City  
of London, calling upon the people of England  
for contributions to assist in overthrowing  
republican government and religious liberty  
in Spain, and placing upon the throne a young  
prince whose model would be Philip II. as  
nearly as he could be reproduced in the  
present age. Their circular is a singular  
appeal to be addressed to a free and  
enlightened people. It states that Charles  
VII. is, by the law of succession  
and the law of inheritance, entitled to the  
throne of Spain; that the abdication of  
King Amadeus has made the throne vacant  
and left Don Carlos the only legal claimant;  
that his accession would end revolution and  
tumult and promote business; while the es-  
tablishment of the Republic would bring the  
International into power. There is no talk  
even of the popular choice; of the national  
representation, and of that ordinary ma-  
chinery of politics of which even reactionary  
parties are, in modern times, forced to avail  
themselves. It is a frank statement of the  
royal right to rule; a calm and sincere denial  
of the popular right to decide upon the form  
of government; taking it for granted that  
this dull young gentleman, on account of his  
descent, in the male line, from Philip V., is  
better fitted to govern the Spaniards than the  
Spaniards themselves. This unlawful  
subscription goes on under the very eyes of  
the Government, and it is only within a  
day or two that we have heard of any inter-  
ference with it. It is now reported that the Re-  
publican Committees in London have under-  
taken the prosecution of the Carlism for this  
violation of law. There is a certain grotesque  
fitness in the fact that the only organization  
which could be found to attack this open  
monarchical conspiracy against the Republic  
in Spain, should be an open republican con-  
spiracy against the monarchy in England.

The Figueras government is of course strug-  
gling against terrible obstacles and discour-  
agements. But it is by no means certain that  
it is as yet in its agony. The Carlism are  
clearly making no headway. The latest intel-  
ligence is that Prince Alfonso has gone back  
into France with his entire staff, which would  
indicate that he regarded the campaign in the  
North as a failure. The Federalist disturbs-  
ances, though they are certainly grave and  
serious proof of an unwholesome state of pub-  
lic opinion, are nothing new, and they are not  
considered so formidable in Madrid as to  
make it necessary to postpone the elections  
for the Constituent Cortes. The unfortunate  
disagreement which arose last week between  
the Government and the Permanent Committee  
of the Cortes, was only what might have been  
expected, and ended in the only practicable  
way. The crisis and its termination afford a  
useful suggestion to M. Thiers for the period  
which is rapidly approaching in French affairs.  
The late Cortes, like the French Assembly,  
consisted in great part of men who were really  
monarchists and who only accepted the Republic  
from necessity. When they dissolved, they  
elected a Permanent Committee, nominally to  
advise, but really to watch the Government.  
In this attitude of dormant hostility, it was  
not difficult to find causes for quarrel. Señor

Figueras lost his wife, and made over his  
position as President of the Council, pend-  
ing the funeral, to Pi y Margall. This was  
an irregularity, but one which  
certainly under the circumstances afforded no  
justification for the action of the Permanent  
Committee in provoking a conflict. They  
counted possibly upon forcing a resignation of  
the Ministry and renewing it with members  
more in accordance with themselves. Castelar  
and Salmeron appeared before them and asked  
for an adjournment of 12 hours. This was  
refused. The Government, thus distinctly  
defied, took the only measures in their power,  
and by virtue of their supreme discretionary  
authority declared the Permanent Committee  
at an end. It is highly probable that we have  
not yet seen the last of this exciting episode,  
but it is difficult to perceive what else the  
Government could have done, unless it had  
resigned, and this would be nothing less than  
disastrous in the present situation of Spain.  
Until the elections are over, the welfare not  
only of the Republic but of society itself is in  
the hands of Figueras and his associates, and  
their first duty at present is to see that the  
Commonwealth receives no detriment which  
they can in any way prevent.

## GEN. GARFIELD'S BACK PAY.

Gen. Garfield's vindication of himself from  
any selfish motive in voting for the increase  
of salaries, though it is somewhat late, is none  
the less effective on that account. He waited  
until the criticisms of his course became  
clamorous in his district and then announced  
the fact that he had turned over the entire  
amount of his back pay to the United States  
Treasury. Not every one will agree  
with Gen. Garfield in the argument  
he makes to justify his vote in  
favor of the bill, but no one who knows him  
will question the purity of his motives in what  
he did. He saw the Appropriation bill, as he  
thought, seriously endangered, and preferred to  
vote for it with all these objectionable features  
rather than to make an extra session necessary  
by its defeat. As Chairman of the Committee  
on Appropriations, he naturally felt an exag-  
gerated interest in the matter. It seems prob-  
able that he was not alone in this feeling, and  
that the feeling was not shared by all the  
members of the House.

But it is singular that the partisans of the  
Administration, who speak with such severity  
of the members of Congress who voted for  
this bill, and who took their money when it  
passed, should give way to an indiscreet im-  
pulse of honesty which, in its indirect con-  
sequences, will lead them to little less than  
blasphemy. Have they forgotten whose final  
act made that measure a law? whose hand  
and seal took all that money out of the  
Treasury? Do they not remember who profited  
most by it? As one hundred is to five, so is  
the responsibility of an August Personage com-  
pared to that of the average Congressman who  
pocketed his cash and went home. It may be  
said that theirs was for service already paid  
for; but in the case of this Personage it was  
an increase of salary for a term to which he  
had already been elected, and that is not law-  
ful. It contravenes the letter, perhaps, and  
certainly the spirit of the Constitution. We  
are not surprised to see that a friend  
of Gen. Garfield, writing to a Cleveland  
paper, insists upon this view, and deprecates  
any criticism of him as equally applicable to  
the President. But we cannot see the force  
of this position. We cannot see that the  
President's example has any longer any magic  
in shielding a wrong action. We congratulate  
Gen. Garfield solely in so far as his action  
has differed from that of Gen. Grant.

## THE COMING DANIEL.

Lord Byron was not the only man who  
wanted a hero. In our time, at any rate,  
the want of a hero is by no means so uncom-  
mon as his lordship supposed it to be, in his.  
The diligent perusal of newspapers published out-  
side of New-York—affording light on many  
dark places, and teaching many great truths  
which otherwise might escape our observation—  
has lately, and with unusual emphasis, im-  
pressed upon our thoughts the afflictive fact  
that the Press of this city is in dire want of a  
hero in dramatic criticism. It hangers, thirsts,  
and pines for him; it will not be comforted  
without him; and what will befall it, unless  
he presently makes his appearance, we are  
afraid even to conjecture. There is, it seems  
evident, no position occupied by mortal man  
which, for the adequate and suitable perform-  
ance of its duties, demands a title of the moral  
heroism that is needful to a dramatic critic  
of the New-York Press. Lucius Junius, Marcus  
Brutus, Arnold Winkelried, William Tell, and Gen.  
Washington—each in his way was morally mag-  
nificent. But there is a limit to the endurance  
of the stoutest human virtue; and neither of  
these worthies, we are entirely convinced, in  
the light that provincial newspapers have shed  
upon this grand, gorgeous, and terribly  
tempted vociferation, could have been a New-York  
dramatic critic and still retained his morals.  
The combination of all of them, with perhaps  
an infusion of Quintus Curtius, William the  
Conqueror, and Andrew Jackson, might possi-  
bly prove equal to the test, and prevail in the  
struggle; and for him, accordingly, the metro-  
politan Press longed with an ardent spirit,  
and cried, like the cherubim, with a con-  
tinual cry. It will be permitted, we fancy, to  
keep on crying for a good while yet. This  
hero is not likely to turn up at once—but, if  
he should turn up, what wonders would ensue!  
Imagination fondly halts upon the subli-  
me picture. "I ain't a going to hit you,"  
said a burly prize-fighter to a stripling who  
had vexed him; "but where would you be if I  
"did hit you?"

It is a solemn and awful image that rises  
upon us, as we humbly strive to prefigure the  
illustrious career of this critical hero. He will  
be, perhaps, the greatest man that ever lived.  
He cannot well be less. The ordeals that  
confront him, and to which, of course, he will  
prove superior, will exact that, at the very  
least. And what a boon it will be to have  
the truth told, at last, and the devil put  
utterly to shame! He, at any rate,—the Com-  
ing Daniel, we mean, and not the discomfited  
Satan,—will greatly dare to say, and will say  
it boldly, that Jones is not beautiful; that  
Brown's celebrated stage-walk is a ridiculous  
strut; that Robinson ought to shave off  
his mustache when he plays Charles Sur-  
face; that Mrs. Smith drops decidedly  
too many h's to the square inch; that Miss  
Ogle's brazen custom of winking at  
young bucks in the pit is really too bad; and  
that manager Dobbins would show his sense  
by not trying any longer to sit on two  
stools at once. They are stupendous utter-  
ances, we do not deny; but he will make  
them—he will make many more like them—  
and he will do it all with the bland simplicity  
of unconscious virtue, the vigorous force of  
profound conviction, and the candor of unde-  
viating rectitude. And then, at length, the

provincial Press will breathe with freedom,  
for then its lofty standard of civic criticism  
will be satisfied. "Swift fly the days, and rise  
the expected morn! Oh spring to light,  
"Auspicious Babe, be born!"

Meanwhile, in the interval of patient waiting,  
it is the greatest comfort and happiness thus to  
anticipate the Coming Daniel. Fallen, criti-  
cally speaking, upon dark days, there is, plainly,  
nothing left us but the blessed privilege of  
this rosy hope. How dark these days are, in  
their utter lack of truthful dramatic criticism,  
we might not, perhaps, have fully realized,  
but for the luminous testimony of newspapers  
vouchsafed to us from the Sockets and Tuck-  
ets of a virtuous interior. These sweet re-  
membrances, not permitting themselves to  
fall a prey to concealment, have done their  
duty, however, have spoken out their minds,  
have shown us at once our peril and our  
refuge—and we are saved. We understand  
now—and we think the local public ought to  
understand it—that far too much has been  
expected of the frail human nature of dramatic  
critics. There's such divinity doth hedge  
about a Duff or a Daly, there's such an awful  
glory doth enwrap a Wallace or a Booth,  
there's such a scorching radiance doth exude  
from a P. T. Barnum, a George Wood, or a  
Dan Bryant, that no ordinary man should be  
required to speak of either of them in any  
other way than "with bated breath and whis-  
pered humbleness." Even as Marc Antony  
felt his genius to be rebuked in the presence  
of Caesar's, so do our doughtiest scribes feel  
themselves to quake under the eagle glance  
of a Fox or a Tony Pastor. Well may they  
tremble! Well, moreover, may they lie supine  
—or in any other way that will bring them  
off! For, not only are they thus overwhelmed  
by individual greatness, but they are likewise  
stunned, and, as it were, dwarfed, not to say  
petrified, by the magnitude of the topics upon  
which it is their mission to think. If we  
have no able and honest dramatic criticism in  
New-York, at least we have great actors. It is  
a race of giants; and what can a poor pigmy do but  
to take off the hat of respect and step humbly  
into the gutter of security, when he beholds  
these "Lords of human kind pass by. Pride  
in each port, defiance in each eye?" That  
this is what he does, at any rate, our coun-  
try friends are convinced—and we are not going  
to deny it. How could we—remembering the  
black trousers, the patent leather boots,  
the blonde wigs, and the master-pieces of  
Worth that have so often bowed us down into  
the dust of humility? How could we—re-  
membering the wondrous series of plays, in which  
the dollars and the adulterous pastimes of our  
population have been revealed only less clearly  
than the stupendous force of the native dra-  
matic brain of the period? It is not to be  
denied. There is no way out of it. The more  
we think of it the more our wonder grows  
that dramatic critics in this metropolis  
have survived at all. But the Coming  
Daniel, when at last he gets to  
judgment, will change all this. For him there  
will be no terror in the romantic eye of Mr.  
Booth or the romantic eye-glass of Mr. Wal-  
lace. Unmoved will his meditative glance  
repose upon the slender symmetry of Mr.  
Duff and the austere magnificence and stately  
port of Mr. Daly. Beauty shall not melt him  
to compassion, neither shall gold tempt him  
to turn aside the lightnings of his righteous  
and stick-consuming wrath. He will be an  
able-bodied Daniel; and those chests of treas-  
ure which royal managers and auriferous  
"stars" now deposit, with fitting contempt,  
at the door of every New-York dramatic  
critic—along with his morning rolls and  
milk-can—our champion shall toss back,  
with lofty scorn and with the ease of the  
athlete. He will be a Critical Hero, beyond  
all question, and we betide the new race of  
Folairs and Snellicells, destined to shrivel  
in his refulgence.

Next Thursday will be the First of May. For most  
persons the dreadful question—To move, or not to  
move?—has already been settled. To some it is still  
open. To all there will now appear both wisdom  
and beauty in the *riserteria*. One old sat tells us  
to "let well alone," and another intimates that  
"a rolling stone gathers no moss." Strange to say,  
the highest poetic philosophy and the humblest  
every-day sense are agreed on this point. Shake-  
spear's *Hamlet* is plainly of opinion that it is better  
to "bear those ills we have than fly to others that  
we know not of;" and popular experience distinctly  
declares against jumping "out of the frying-pan  
into the fire." We are strongly opposed to all undue  
encouragement of the rapacity of landlords. If  
the tenant sees his path clear to the bettering of his  
condition, by all means let him "take the instant  
way." Those house-letters, in particular, it seems  
especially desirable to discourage, who annually in-  
crease the rent of a residence by about the sum of  
money they know it would cost the tenant to get his  
goods transported to a new sanctuary, in case he  
should determine to flit. They are of the penurious  
and tricky kind, and it is always a comfort to dis-  
count them and to see them discomfited. Neverthe-  
less, to persons who find themselves even tolerably  
well situated, it is not bad counsel which recom-  
mends them to stay as they are. Once settled in a  
decent neighborhood, the New-Yorker makes a mis-  
take if he ever moves out of it, providing he can  
stay where he is on endurable conditions. There is  
no civic region without its disadvantages; and in  
the matter of disadvantages there is a sameness  
quite metropolitan all over the city. The cockroach  
of West Twenty-third-st. may be a shade lighter  
than his brother of East Broadway, descended from  
a traveled progenitor or semi-nautical sire on the  
contiguous docks; but, dirty brown or sable, he is a  
cockroach still. As for movers to the country, they  
intend to continue working in New-York, they have  
an experience in store to which Macbeth's "curses  
not loud but deep" could alone do justice; and to  
those, accordingly, they are referred.

About a year ago the Emigration Commissioners  
reduced the head tax on immigrants from \$2.50  
to \$1.50. Their expenses have since completely  
used up the small fund thus collected, and they now  
urge the Legislature to restore the tax to the original  
amount. There are no reasons why this head  
money should be increased which did not exist be-  
fore the reduction. The steamship companies of  
course charge this increase to steerage passengers,  
and it thus becomes a tax upon immigration. Any  
increase, as contemplated, will be almost certain to  
reduce rather than increase the fund. The present  
tax drives steamship companies to land passengers  
where there is no head money charged. As a proof  
of this, the two Cunarders due last week landed  
their steerage passengers, to the number of 1,600, at  
Boston, where they were admitted free, and the Cuba,  
which landed at this port, brought only 350 steerage  
passengers. The proposed increase will possibly  
induce other steamship companies to touch at Bos-  
ton, as the head money on each trip will average  
from \$2.00 to \$4.00.

It is chiefly in country villages that the old  
substantial belief in good strong doses of medicine,  
and many of them, holds force. In the cities there  
are weak-minded triflings with tiny homeopathic  
globules, with all sorts of baths, and "Health  
Lifts," and changes of air; and the metropolitan  
mother generally thinks twice before she inflicts the  
bitterness of rhubarb or the despair of castor-oil upon  
her infants. Not so in rural shades. There the  
traditions of stern and allopathic ancestors are still  
honored. A touching instance of this feeling was  
lately revealed in a distant village. The excellent

orthodox parents of a young family returned from  
church one evening in time to hear one of their  
children uttering sounds which seemed to them to  
be forebode croup. Seizing a lamp and the most un-  
pleasant medicine they had in the house they  
hurried to the room where three small boys had  
wrapped the draperies of their couches about them.  
Having a natural distaste for medicine not one of  
the three would acknowledge that he had the  
slightest acquaintance with croup. With faint in-  
terests, their duty, and their medicine, the  
anxious parents held the first boy they could catch  
and administered the dreadful dose. They then  
retired from the sad scene, and it was not until the  
next morning that they discovered the cause of the  
gasping and insane howls of laughter which were  
audible from the invalid's chamber after their dis-  
appearance. 'Twas only that the boy who had the  
medicine and the boy who had the croup were two  
distinct and separate boys!

The Woman's Centennial Executive Committee  
have had an immense meeting in the Philadelphia  
Academy, at which there were several long speeches  
and a report. Since the 15th of last February they  
have collected through Philadelphia ward committees  
\$27,670. They were afterward invited by the  
Centennial Commission's Executive Committee to  
extend their work over the whole State of Pennsylv-  
ania. This has been done, and towns and villages  
treat the matter with eager interest. Not content  
with this, the Committee are beginning to invoke  
the aid of women in other States. The special work  
to be done is, we hope it is scarcely necessary to say,  
the obtaining of subscriptions to the stock of the  
Centennial Board of Finance. The exhibition of  
women's work will be a particular feature of the  
Centennial celebration, and workingwomen are  
specially desired to interest themselves in the under-  
taking. The President of the Woman's Executive  
Committee writes us to ask the aid of the women of  
New-York in duly celebrating our National Anni-  
versary. We take pleasure in presenting the matter  
to the consideration of the women of our State.  
American women have an equal interest, an equal  
pride in a country noble and promising in spite of